

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated December 7, 2004. As set forth above, the priority data has been amended and updated.

The Objection to the Claims:

The Examiner has objected to claims 2-13 for improper dependency. The dependency has been corrected, and is now proper.

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a):

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Yamada et al. Further, claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Monson, and claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Klan et al. Finally, claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Nye.

In response the Applicants have amended claim 1 to essentially include the limitations of claims 3 and 5. As now recited in newly amended claim 1, the present invention provides a removable processor enclosure apparatus for use in a gaming machine, the gaming machine having a housing defining an interior portion, CPU electrical components to perform gaming thereof, and a first electrical connector disposed in the interior portion. The enclosure apparatus includes an enclosure securably containing the CPU electrical components in an interior space thereof, and is adapted for sliding receipt in the interior portion of the gaming machine housing between a mounting condition and a removal condition. In the mounting condition, the enclosure is mounted to the gaming

machine housing, and a second electrical connector of the enclosure is coupled to the first electrical connector of the housing. In the removal condition, removal of the enclosure from the housing is enabled. The enclosure apparatus further includes a door movably mounted between an opened position, allowing access to the interior space, and a closed position, preventing access to the interior space. Finally, the enclosure apparatus includes a lock mechanism having a primary lock assembly and a secondary lock assembly. The primary lock assembly is selectively movably mounted to the door between a locked condition, engaging the enclosure to lock the door in the closed position, and an unlocked condition, disengaging the enclosure to enable movement of the door to the opened position. The secondary lock assembly, on the other hand, is selectively movable between an unengaged condition and an engaged condition. In the engaged condition, the secondary lock assembly retains the primary lock assembly in the locked condition and prevents movement thereof to the unlocked condition.

Accordingly, this dual system of security functions to reinforce the strength of the primary lock assembly 118 of the enclosure 25. As best viewed in FIGURE 8 of the present pending application, when the primary lock member is rotated about rotor member 121 to the locked condition, the distal ends of the opposed lock bolts 122 are caused to engage the associated slots 123 of the enclosure 25. At the same time when the front door 49 is in the closed condition, a neck portion 130, fixedly mounted as part of the rotor member 121, rotates into engagement in the socket 131 of the post member 132 when the primary lock assembly 118 is in the locked condition. This operation is generally described in the present pending application at page 24, line 2, through page 25, line 16.

To promote additional security to the primary lock assembly 118, in accordance with the present invention, a latch device 136 of the secondary lock assembly 135 may be rotated into engagement with neck portion 130, retaining the neck portion in the socket 131 of the

post member 132. As set forth in the present pending application at page 26, lines 9-15:

This locking arrangement 135 includes a latch device 136 disposed adjacent the rotor member 121 along the interior wall of the door 49. When the primary locking member 118 is oriented in the locking condition, the secondary locking arrangement 135 can be operated to rotate the latch device 136 into engagement with the neck portion 130 of the rotor member 121 to prevent rotation from the locked condition to the unlocked condition. (Emphasis added)

In contrast, the security device of Monson does not disclose a secondary security device that functions to retain a primary security device in a locked condition. As set forth at col. 4, lines 10-28, and FIGURE 4 of Monson, the secondary bolts 42, and even the third pair of bolts 50, are operated via the motion translators 48 and 44, to further increase the locking resistance of a door or the like. More specifically, as set forth at col. 4, lines 23-28:

All three pairs of bolts slide in and out of corresponding receptacles attached to the machine body. All bolts and link members are given direction and support by guide means 52. Through the use of this embodiment, the locking mechanism provides six resistance points in three different directions.

The Applicants therefore submit that Yamada, either alone or in combination with Monson, does not mention, suggest or imply a gaming enclosure having a primary locking assembly, and a secondary locking assembly that prevents the primary locking assembly from movement to the unlocked condition. In fact, in Monson, the locking bolts are more or less merely redundant devices.

In view of the foregoing arguments and amendments, withdrawal of the §§102(e) and 103(b) rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this application with a view towards allowance. It is believed that all

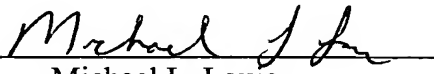
claims now pending fully and patently define the subject invention over the cited art of record and are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael L. Louie at (510) 843-6200.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, including any extension fees, which may be required or credit any overpayment directly to the account of the undersigned, No. 50-0388 (Order No. IGT1P017D1).

Respectfully submitted,

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